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Central Intelligence Agency

Office of the Director

May 2, 1952

Mr. W. A. Harriman  
Director for Mutual Security  
Executive Office of the President  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Harriman:

In response to your letter of 28 April 1952, I fully recognize the importance of more complete and timely economic intelligence to the effective implementation of your responsibilities under the Mutual Defense Assistance Control Act of 1951. As you have indicated, CIA has to a certain extent provided your office with such intelligence in the past, however the new requirements of your program obviously call for an expansion of this service and the establishment of appropriate machinery for coordination among the several contributing agencies.

Your proposal that an Intelligence Working Group be set up within the Economic Defense Advisory Committee structure is satisfactory to me and I am willing to have this group chaired, as you suggest, by the principal CIA representative in that group. In this connection I am designating [redacted] of the Office of Research and Reports, CIA, to serve as our principal representative. He will meet with whomever you designate to make the necessary preliminary arrangements for establishment of the Working Group, formulation of the terms of reference, and preparation of the necessary security instructions.

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We will cooperate in every way possible to provide the intelligence required for the success of your program.

Sincerely,

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Signed:

Walter D. Smith  
Director

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